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A Red River City During War: Shreveport, Louisiana's Experiences During World War II

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A Red River City During War:
Shreveport, Louisiana's Experiences During World War II

A Thesis

Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of the
University of New Orleans
in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of

Master of Arts
in
Public History

by

Katelyn Woodel

B.A. Louisiana State University in Shreveport, 2018

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Abstract

This project provides research that details Shreveport, Louisiana's experience during World War II. A physical exhibit at the Spring Street Museum and a digital exhibit displays Shreveport's World War II history, based on research conducted for this thesis. Based on a combination of archival collections, and *Shreveport Times* articles, the project tracks Shreveport communities and the contributions to war efforts from the broader community and local industry. Shreveport's involvement in World War II began with the Louisiana Maneuvers in 1941. Support for the war continued with heavy metals manufacturing such as the production of shells at the J.B. Beaird Company and community support of war financing, among other aspects. Furthermore, Shreveport trained pilots at Centenary College and collaborated with the bomber training base at Barksdale Air Force Base in Bossier City, Louisiana. This project argues that smaller communities played essential roles in supporting the nation during the Second World War.

Keywords: Shreveport; World War II; Louisiana; home front

Project Overview

Definition of Project:

American military contributions to war efforts during World War II are thoroughly documented. A less defined aspect of the war effort comes from home front activity in individual states, cities, and towns such as Shreveport, Louisiana and its neighboring cities along the Red River valley. Soldiers, supporters, and supplies came from smaller cities like Shreveport, and the city's citizens committed to contributing to the overall war effort. Though soldiers fought under the banner of the United States, they truly hoped to protect their hometowns, whose citizens supported them in turn. Support came in the form of morale boosting correspondence, the buying and selling of war bonds, rationing, and sustaining industrial factories that created bullets, weapons, and other various types of war materials. Shreveport's Greenwood Cemetery commemorates World War II by containing a distinct section of land with hundreds of graves belonging to dedicated World War II veterans. Most of these soldiers lived, fought for the freedoms of Shreveport citizens and lost their lives overseas to ensure a safe life for Shreveport.

Historians of the American World War II home front have overlooked the contributions of Shreveport, but the city significantly contributed to war efforts, and citizens supported their hometown soldiers to empower America. Much of the United States is made up of smaller towns, cities, rural counties and parishes, and each of these communities sent away their recruits, supplied the mobilization effort, and continued on with their life on the home front. Though but one example, the experience of Shreveport proves that World War II deeply impacted individual cities, and that said cities contributed greatly to Allied successes and victory. Through community involvement, training maneuvers, and media coverage Shreveport steamed ahead into a new era of American dominance. Research examines the city's involvement in the

Louisiana Maneuvers of 1941, interpreting the extensive coverage of the war through the *Shreveport Times*, and measuring community involvement through overseas service and home front contributions. Homefront contributions include: support in the form of pilot and Red Cross nurse training from Centenary College in Shreveport, civil defense training, war bond drives, and rationing of goods. The J.B. Beaird Company of Shreveport was integral in industrial manufacturing of shells, and the city housed an aircraft identification center in the basement of the Municipal Auditorium. Barksdale Air Force Base across the Red River in Bossier City emerged as a national center for bomber training, as it remains today an essential bomber base.

In collaboration with the Spring Street Museum in Shreveport, this paper provides the basis for an exhibit, and contributes to the museum's history of the city. The exhibit includes newspaper articles from the *Shreveport Times*, photographs, and artefacts such as World War II military pins and patches in addition to a World War II service member uniform. Information presented in the exhibit corresponds with research completed in Shreveport's local archives, including the Louisiana State University Northwest Louisiana Archives Collection on the fourth floor of the Noel Memorial Library. Additionally, research for the exhibit was conducted at the Shreve Memorial Library, the Louisiana Exhibit Museum, the R.W. Norton Art Gallery, and the Spring Street Museum. In addition to a physical exhibit, a digital exhibition is also presented to expand the reach and accessibility of this project. These exhibits inform the citizens and tourists of all ages of Shreveport's strong ties to World War II. The exhibits also emphasize the city's historical importance. Ultimately, this exhibit demonstrates that Shreveport contributed a great amount to the war effort, and underlines the historical significance to the period of 1939-1948 for the veterans and their families who fought in World War II.

Accuracy in research is necessary to produce informative and credible exhibits that educate both citizens of Shreveport and visitors of the city alike. Furthermore, a look at the community of Shreveport today is necessary to determine the relevance of this project and how the information is approached. The research conducted for this project largely affects the final design and direction of the exhibits. For example, many exhibition aspects exist based on this research, but the space for the physical exhibit does not allow for a large exhibit to be produced. A smaller, more concise version of this research must be produced to coincide with the size of the exhibit space. Some aspects less likely to interest or make an impact on visitors of the museum face cuts during the construction phase. Though several of the studied topics face cuts in the final phase of physical exhibit production, each topic is explored in the digital exhibit. This on-line version builds upon the information presented in the physical. Yet, the digital format allows for the inclusion of a broader range of topics to reach the public. While the online version of this project grants more space, it also means that each topic required meticulous research, but must also be concise and eye-catching on the screen. For this portion of the project a healthy mixture of exciting and informative narrative is important.

The physical exhibit will remain at the Spring Street Museum for several months, and may have an extended existence if patronage to the exhibit is significantly higher than normal. This project is part of a rotating exhibit section set up for alumni of Louisiana State University in Shreveport, patrons of the museum, or other historians seeking to contribute to Shreveport history. A former internship at the museum and a friendly relationship with museum staff aided in gaining permission to contribute to the museum's historical information. No other students contributed to the exhibit research and production, therefore, the museum curator, Marty Loschen, and the LSUS Foundation professors acted as mentors for the project.

Project Objective:

These exhibitions explore the contributions and experiences of the larger Shreveport community during 1940's U.S. home front. The mission of the Spring Street Museum is to educate locals and tourists of Shreveport on the history of the city from Native American settlements to the bustling business era of the 1930's. Currently, the museum does not house an exhibit on 1940's Shreveport, and this project adds to the timeline of Shreveport history. The only previous aspects of the museum that touched on Shreveport during World War II included various artefacts in the museum archives. These exhibitions utilize the artefacts to educate the public on 1940's Shreveport and will expand the museum's narrative of Shreveport history.

Greenwood Cemetery in Shreveport is the resting place of many local World War II veterans whose stories are not currently available to the public. Not only will the exhibitions allow the general public to better understand an important era of Shreveport's history, but will also serve as a remembrance of the lives lost overseas. Additionally, they will show unification among the community during world conflict and the ability of a community to support the nation.

Currently, there is very little scholarship on Shreveport during World War II. The extent of scholarship is only a few journal articles and paragraphs within larger books that do not directly address Shreveport's involvement in World War II. Research predominately comes from primary archival material including personal memorabilia, oral histories, and newspaper articles. These exhibitions seek to expand the secondary literature and provide an in-depth look at the community.

Literature Review

Gabel, Christopher R. *The U.S. Army GHQ Maneuvers of 1941*. Washington, D.C.: Center of Military History United States Army, 1992.

Sanson, Jerry Purvis. *Louisiana During World War II: Politics and Society, 1939-1945*. Baton Rouge, LA: Louisiana State University Press, 1999.

Simpson, William M. "A Tale Untold? The Alexandria, Louisiana, Lee Street Riot: January 10, 1942." *Louisiana History: The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Society* 35, no. 2 (April 1992): 133–149. Accessed February 8, 2019. <https://www-jstor-org.ezproxy.uno.edu/stable/4233092>.

Winkler, Allan M. *Home Front U.S.A.: America During World War II*. Wheeling, IL: Harlan Davidson, Inc., 2012.

Academic journal articles and books provide researchers, students, and historians alike with valuable information to assist them in their search for knowledge. Secondary source materials are important in evaluating the conflicting views surrounding a topic while also providing valuable information on further research in the footnotes. The pages of information that academic articles and books provide are important to observe and use either for or against an author's stance on their specific topic. Pertinent historiography concerning Shreveport's experience during World War II lags behind the works detailing the American home front as a whole. While no books directly pertain to Shreveport and World War II history, newspaper articles from the *Shreveport Times* offer first-hand insight into the era. This project relies mostly on information pulled from newspaper articles though a broader scope of the national home front and regional home front revealed similar experiences all over America to the experiences of Shreveport.

On a national level, the home front received a surge of energy from the start of World War II. Allan Winkler examines the home front in his work *Home Front, U.S.A.: America During World War II* where he introduces the notion that the onset of the war brought America

out the depression and pushed the country into the modern world of technological advancement. Winkler tackles issues ranging from race relations between white people, African Americans, Native Americans, and Jewish Americans while also digging into information regarding women taking up work as men traveled overseas. One of the largest takeaways from Winkler's work comes from his belief that, "Americans' vision of the future included no brave and bold new world, but a revived and refurbished version of the one they had known before."¹ This statement implies an American home front which adapted to war time America, pushed women to take up jobs in places women commonly stayed away from, forced somewhat of a dialogue about race relations, and set the stage for a growth of community simply wished to leave the changes behind to return to a white male dominated world. While Winkler's information is true for some of America, Shreveport seemingly does the opposite. In the years after the war, Shreveport grew in industry, agriculture, society, and population which opened doors for women and people of color to find a higher place in society, not without challenges.

Regionally, a well-informed book, *Louisiana During World War II: Politics and Society, 1939-1945* by Jerry Sanson dives into Louisiana's home front culture during World War II. Sanson details politics, agriculture, industry, and education among other components of the home front. This work discusses how individual Louisiana citizens participated in World War II and how freedoms of groups such as African Americans and women expanded during this time. Sanson's first section discussed the feuding politics in Louisiana between Longites, staunch supporters of Huey P. Long and anti-Longites who took power in 1940.² The book then

¹ Allan M. Winkler, *Home Front U.S.A.: America during World War II* (Wheeling, IL: Harlan Davidson, Inc., 2012).

² Jerry Purvis Sanson, *Louisiana during World War II: Politics and Society, 1939-1945* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1999), 9-11.

extensively covers the education system in Louisiana, agriculture, and economy which were all impacted by American entrance into World War II. This work is fundamental in conducting research on Shreveport during World War II, because it is one of the only works that discusses home front war time in Louisiana exclusively, while also providing further secondary reading and the locations of primary source material.

Looking at a city close to Shreveport in “A Tale Untold? The Alexandria, Louisiana, Lee Street Riot: January 10, 1942,” the author, William Simpson discusses a story forgotten and, in many cases, inaccurately recorded. The Lee Street Riot took place during World War II in the central Louisiana town of Alexandria where, at the time, the area was still plagued by Jim Crow laws and rampant racism. In the bustling, African American section of town, a fight broke out after a white military policeman arrested a black soldier in front of a popular theater.³ A riot then ensued and military police, white soldiers, and white civilians began fighting the black soldiers on Lee Street leading to many injuries to both troops and civilians and casualties. Though no casualties/injuries (?) [need a noun here] are documented, many believe there were at least a few.⁴ Simpson points out that this event came at a critical point in American history because judiciary sympathies and rising African American political and social organizations were gaining momentum and had no intention of allowing the old world South to continue their unequal reign.⁵ The Lee Street Riot solidified the notion that political and social change was necessary and needed to be enacted as quickly as possible.

³ William M. Simpson, “A Tale Untold? The Alexandria, Louisiana, Lee Street Riot: January 10, 1942,” *Louisiana History: The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Society* 35, no. 2 (April 1992): 136-137.

⁴ Ibid, 137-138.

⁵ William M. Simpson, “A Tale Untold? The Alexandria, Louisiana, Lee Street Riot: January 10, 1942,” *Louisiana History: The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Society* 35, no. 2 (April 1992): ,149.

Throughout his work, Simpson seems to be arguing that the inaccuracies in reported information of the event should inform researchers that government documents are not a perfect source of information. One of the most important forms of information comes directly from the people who lived through the event, who can dispute the events depiction in government documents. Furthermore, Simpson argues that the Lee Street Riot is essential in learning about and understanding the civil rights events that soon followed the riot, but because of inaccurate reporting by white government and military officials and conflicting views on the event, it is often a forgotten catalyst in the history of civil rights. When connecting this article to the first, a dichotomy in America is seen where African American citizens, actual American citizens, who fought for their country were treated less hospitably than prisoners of war who may or may not have wanted to see Hitler take over America. The color of their skin impacted the way in which they were treated.

Simpson uses many oral history interviews to discern the truth of the Lee Street Riot. In doing so, this research allowed him to create a stronger foundation for his argument, because the people who lived through the Lee Street Riot disputed information found in government documents based off what they had experienced and witnessed. Additionally, Simpson recorded information from multiple interviewees and compared it with information previously documented through the government and other sources. While this source does not directly pertain to the city of Shreveport, Simpson's work brings into question whether Shreveport experienced similar tensions and outbursts. As far as the *Shreveport Times* reports, no such violence occurred in the Shreveport area, but racial tensions presented in the way Mayor Sam Caldwell approached African American workers for factories.

The U.S. Army GHQ Maneuvers of 1941 by Christopher Gabel discusses the General Headquarters Maneuvers that trained American armies to fight in Europe prior to American entrance into World War II. The GHQ maneuvers occurred throughout portions of Louisiana and Texas with several operations in the Carolinas. These maneuvers were performed as actual wartime operations and documented as such by local newspapers. Gabel argues that the GHQ Maneuvers introduced two new and major facets to the American military, training and might. The GHQ Maneuvers changed the United States military because they were the first and largest peacetime training operations the United States had ever implemented.⁶ Additionally, these maneuvers revealed, for the first time, the military might of the United States.⁷ Gabel's work pertains more to the operational and logistical aspects of the Louisiana Maneuvers instead of offering a cultural and social perspective. While the work does not specifically detail Shreveport's value as a training ground besides the similarity of Shreveport land to that of European countries, this work does show Shreveport experiencing the war before American troops landed in Europe. The *Shreveport Times* provides additional information regarding the Louisiana Maneuvers which reveals Shreveport's excitement to host such an important event.

Each of these works provides specific insight into the social, political, cultural, and strategical history of World War II in Louisiana. All four rely heavily upon primary source material because of lack of secondary source material available. While the first two articles do not pertain directly to Shreveport's involvement in World War II, they both paint a picture of the social, cultural, and political scenery of neighboring cities. From the histories of other cities, conclusions can be drawn on how Shreveport compared to or differed from other areas. The

⁶ Christopher R. Gabel, *The U.S. Army GHQ Maneuvers of 1941* (Washington, D.C.: Center of Military History, U.S. Army, 1992), introduction.

⁷ *Ibid*, introduction.

works discussed also all provide additional research material and collections available to visit. In terms of connecting to the thesis of this project, each of these works provides information that can be used as an example of small-town contributions to World War II. Furthermore, these examples imply that World War II impacted the home front not only through political and social changes, but also through less obvious aspects such as agriculture and education. Using each of these works and other materials, this project will prove Shreveport's contributions to World War II were and remain significant.

Research Methods and Design

Founded in 1836 as a port city along the Red River, Shreveport has a long and rich history. However, the city's history during World War II is largely unwritten. Despite the lack of published historical interpretation, Shreveport's World War II history is well documented and preserved in the many archives in Shreveport and the surrounding area, as well as other archives in Louisiana and the United States. Local museums and universities house primary source documents and artifacts that allow researchers to better understand the period. These documents and artefacts range in size and importance, but all provide valuable information on the history of Shreveport. In addition to general information on the history of Shreveport, many archival holdings pertain to specific periods of time in the city's history. These manuscript collections include important information on Shreveport's contributions to war efforts during World War II. Within these archives in Shreveport, one can find valuable and pertinent information, both primary and secondary about World War II in the city. Finding secondary information comes with difficulty though, because Shreveport's contributions and connections to World War II are less known than other parts of Louisiana and the United States. The lack of secondary material is due in part to the smaller size and perceived low importance of Shreveport. Nevertheless, the city's important contributions to mobilization efforts during World War II are supported by the primary sources found in local archival holdings.

The first archival holdings, which are one of the major information streams for this project, are found at the Northwest Louisiana Archives Collection on the fourth floor of the Noel Memorial Library at Louisiana State University Shreveport (LSUS). The Northwest Louisiana Archives houses information spanning from the early days of Shreveport to more current holdings of phone books and information of that sort. Important for this paper though are the

materials on World War II era Shreveport. This collection hosts a range of information from primary to secondary sources on Shreveport and World War II. Though the archive is found on the campus of Louisiana State University Shreveport, it is open to the public and easy to access. Additionally, almost all the held records can be looked up on the archives website though many are not accessible through the website portal, so physical visits are necessary to obtain information and view documents.

The LSUS's Northwest Louisiana Archives contain an interesting collection of information on World War II in Shreveport with many primary source documents available to researchers. Some of the most valuable collections include: the World War II Miscellaneous Collection, 1940-1955; which holds various pieces of information on World War II in Shreveport such as ration books, V-Mail, and a third term re-election advertisement for Franklin D. Roosevelt. In addition to these, important oral histories provide firsthand accounts of World War II in Shreveport, while other interesting materials include correspondence letters from several soldiers back to their families in Shreveport including the Donald Clarke and Eva Dell Mills World War II Correspondence collection, which holds letters between the husband and wife as well other relatives and friends of the family. This one is particularly valuable in gauging citizen reactions to the war. Furthermore, there are collections containing Shreveport families scrapbook creations such as the Thomas Carr Scrapbooks, 1939-1966, which hold photographs, newspaper clippings, and letters, among other items. For the exhibit related to this project, a potentially valuable collection is the Jack Barham Negative Collection, 1944-1991 which contains primary source photographs from the time periods listed, and which document domestic and internationally relevant events in Shreveport.

The Spring Street Museum in Shreveport also holds valuable primary source information. The museum is housed in Shreveport's oldest existing building and holds an array of material on the history of Shreveport stopping around 1935. Spring Street is under the supervision of the LSUS Foundation. Most of the information found in the Spring Street Museum can be classified as artifact based, but each piece is still valuable for the exhibit aspect of this thesis. Primary sources and material culture pertaining to World War II in Shreveport are scattered in the various archival areas around the museum, because no exhibit currently details Shreveport's World War II history. All the material is currently stored in archivally appropriate boxes or filing cabinets/ and light safe pull out drawers. These holdings include donated photographs or pieces owned by the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America, the former sponsors of the museum, most likely from family collections or acquired over time from other sources. The curator of the museum has sent the accession documentation to further clarify how the artifacts arrived in the possession of the museum. While research went rather smoothly, the amount of primary source material became overwhelming at times and much of the material will not make an appearance in these exhibitions.

Interactive Map Panels:

As a result of the archival research, eleven aspects of Shreveport contributions will be covered in the interactive map. Other panels on the website cover nine additional topics.

Panel #1: The Louisiana Maneuvers: Practice for Wartime

Before America officially entered World War II, the military performed pre-war training maneuvers to prepare troops for a potential American entrance into WWII. These military campaigns took place in Arkansas, Louisiana, and the Carolinas. During Phase 2, in

September of 1941, Shreveport joined in on the war games as a vital city in the pretend Battle for the Red River. This military campaign was taken very seriously, and Shreveport even found a new name as Shrevezig because of its free city status resembling that of the European city of Danzig, a former semi-autonomous city-state in Germany prior to World War II.⁸

The Red and Blue armies positioned themselves on opposite sides of the banks of the Red River and fought for control of the city. Lieutenant General Walter Krueger commanded the Blue Army with the aid of Colonel Dwight D. Eisenhower, while Lieutenant General Ben Lear commanded the Red with his secret weapon, Major General George S. Patton Jr and his armed tank calvary.⁹ Armed with planned actions, the two armies went to war. Patton eventually led the Red army, taking over the Blue Army territory.¹⁰ Not only did the Louisiana Maneuvers train troops for the inevitable future, but they also helped determine who would be leading the troops to battle on European soil.¹¹

Image: The front-page clipping from the *Shreveport Times* on September 15, 1941, the date when Shreveport was at the center of U.S. military war games.

Panel #2: *The Shreveport Times* Reports

⁸ “Armies 'Battle' in Louisiana,” *The Shreveport Times*, September 15, 1941, Vol. LXIX edition, sec. No. 107, pp. 1-8)

⁹ Christopher R. Gabel, *The U.S. Army GHQ Maneuvers of 1941* (Washington, D.C.: Center of Military History, U.S. Army, 1992), 99-100.

¹⁰ *Ibid*, 108-110.

¹¹ Robert Citino, “The Louisiana Maneuvers: The National WWII Museum: New Orleans,” *The National WWII Museum | New Orleans* (The National World War II Museum, July 10, 2017), <https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/articles/louisiana-maneuvers>).

The Shreveport Times or *The Times*, as it is usually referred to, is a daily newspaper that covers global and Northwest Louisiana news. Having been in print since 1871, *The Shreveport Times* has reported on a range of topics for Shreveport and local communities to consume. During the outbreak of World War II, John D. Ewing owned *The Times* and two other newspapers in the area, as well as *The New Orleans States Newspaper*.¹² Unlike the conservative rhetoric in his other newspapers including New Orleans paper listed above, *The Times* presented each wartime headline with a strong internationalist lean. *The Times* supported American intervention in Europe. Each daily paper contained a multitude of ads that provided the community with ways in which they could support the war. Advertisements in support of the war ranged from auxiliary clubs for women, war bond drives, the rationing of rubber, and cigarette purchases for the boys overseas. Though clearly containing an internationalist bias, *The Shreveport Times* worked hard to produce the most accurate and up-to-date information for Northwest Louisiana. After 148 years, *The Times* is still reporting to the Shreveport community much like they were in the 1940's.

Image: Photograph of a *Shreveport Times* newspaper clipping, circa 1890s.

Panel #3: Barksdale Field: National Bomber Training Center During the War

Barksdale Field, known today as Barksdale Air Force Base, is located just across the river from Shreveport in Bossier City. Established in 1932, the base quickly geared up for World War II. Barksdale acted as a hub for military training for bombers, military police, and

¹² Jerry P. Sanson, "North Louisiana Press Opinion and the Beginning of World War II," *North Louisiana Historical Association Journal* XI, no. 3 (1980): pp. 33-46).

even the Free French Air Force.¹³ The 44th Bombardment Group, which was the first B-24 bomber unit, was established at Barksdale during World War II.¹⁴ Additionally, a sizable group of African American second lieutenants set up and manned an Army Air Force Chemical Warfare Training Center at the Base.¹⁵ To boost morale and entertain the troops, Barksdale Field welcomed USO shows, the Camel Caravan, Military Maid Balls, which included local female citizens, and hosted amateur boxing matches.¹⁶ Beyond military benefits, Barksdale Field also housed the largest victory garden in the United States that soldiers and POW's from Camp Ruston worked together.¹⁷ After the war ended, Barksdale Field turned into Barksdale Air Force Base and continues to operate today. In tune with the rest of Shreveport and Bossier, Barksdale's military personnel celebrated proudly at the end of the war, as the Base maintained its importance for U.S. bomber training and action during the Cold War.

Image: Photograph of a B-26 Martin *Marauder* releasing tear gas for a training exercise.

Panel #4: Sending Out Shells: The J.B. Beaird Company

Founded in 1918 by James Benjamin Beaird, the J.B. Beaird Company primarily provided fabrication for petroleum services around Shreveport, Louisiana in the twenty years prior to World War II.¹⁸ As manufacturing industries in the South converted to wartime

¹³ Shawn Bohannon, John Prime, and H.D. Rigg, *Barksdale Air Force Base* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2002), 72-79.

¹⁴ *Ibid*, 72.

¹⁵ Shawn Bohannon, John Prime, and H.D. Rigg, *Barksdale Air Force Base* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2002), 74.

¹⁶ *Ibid*, 74-76.

¹⁷ *Ibid*, 80.

¹⁸ "Sweet Potato Driers to Be Built Here: Beaird Plant Will Turn Out Some for Civilian Use in 1944," *The Times* (Shreveport, LA), July 22, 1944.

production to support mobilization efforts, the J.B. Beaird Company received its' first wartime Army ordnance contract.¹⁹ The war brought a need for defense industry manufacturing and with that came a need for workers. During the war, the company employed around 800 people, both African American and White.²⁰ Beird's defense products included the manufacturing of shell casings, tanks made for producing rubber and gasoline, maritime anchors, and components for armored tanks.²¹ After the war the J.B. Beaird Company continued production at the wartime plant for a few years, during which time the company produced fittings for gas and oil companies, but eventually sold the plant because the need for such a large plant no longer existed.²² The J.B. Beaird Company continued operation in smaller plants until the 1970's.

Image: A clipping from the *Shreveport Times* of an advertisement for war work at the J.B. Beaird Company.

Panel #5: Minden Chips In: The Louisiana Ordnance Plant

Constructed in 1941 by the Silas Mason Company in nearby Minden, the Louisiana Ordnance Plant, also known as the Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant (LAAP) loaded, assembled, and packed ammunition for the war overseas.²³ In total, throughout the war, the Louisiana Ordnance Plant produced over 100 million items.²⁴ The company even frequently

¹⁹ "Weapons of War Pouring From Plant, Once Supplied Oil Industry," *The Times* (Shreveport), June 27, 1943.

²⁰ Jerry P. Sanson, "World War II," 64 Parishes, accessed April 10, 2020, <https://64parishes.org/entry/world-war-ii>.

²¹ Ibid.

²² "Beaird Foundry Here to Resume Operation," *The Times* (Shreveport, LA), May 10, 1950.

²³ MacDonald and Mack Partnership, "Historic Properties Report Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant Shreveport, LA" (Minneapolis, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, August 1984).

²⁴ Ibid, 29.

adjusted production to match the changing needs for materials of the war effort.²⁵ Not only did the Louisiana Ordnance Plant produce a multitude of products for the war, the plant also helped the Silas Mason Company receive a Army/Navy “E” Award, a high honor presented to high producing factories.²⁶

Image: A photo from the *Shreveport Times* newspaper clipping showing women workers inspecting shell parts at the ordnance plant.

Panel #6: Flying High and Healing Wounds: Centenary College Training Facilities

Founded in 1825 in Shreveport, Centenary College served as a hub for various training courses for young people during World War II. Centenary became one of the first universities to receive a contract from the federal government for aviation training.²⁷ The university quickly developed a top-notch pilot training program, reaching third highest ranked college in the nation.²⁸ Not only did Centenary offer courses in flying, they created programs for many different aspects of the war effort, including home front training. Programs included, Ordnance Inspection courses and the United States Nurse Corps program.²⁹ The College effectively contributed to both the war overseas and home front war efforts by training potential soldiers and the citizens of Shreveport who maintained the front lines at home.

²⁵ MacDonald and Mack Partnership, “Historic Properties Report Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant Shreveport, LA” (Minneapolis, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, August 1984), 29.

²⁶ “Silas Mason Company Has Served Country in War and Peace Since 1829,” *The Times* (Shreveport, LA), August 11, 1943.

²⁷ Centenary College of Louisiana 1825-2000, 23.

²⁸ Ibid, 123.

²⁹ Ibid, 127.

Image: A photograph of a Ordnance Inspection certificate awarded by Centenary College.

Panel #7: Multi-Tasking Entertainment: Shreveport Municipal Auditorium

Completed in 1920, Shreveport's Municipal Auditorium served as the city's largest venue for performances and traveling shows to entertain the citizens of Shreveport. With war mobilization, the auditorium converted into a hub for civil defense needs. War bond drives and shows, a billeting station for soldiers, and an Early Aircraft Warning System all became a part of the daily routine for the Auditorium.³⁰ Much like the rest of the city, the Municipal Auditorium adapted to the war time world and mobilized to support national war efforts.

Image: A photograph of the Municipal Auditorium.

Panel #8: From Oilfield to Ammunition: The Brewster Company

The Brewster Company began in 1909 in Oil City, Louisiana as a machine shop, but grew to much more especially as World War II arrived in Shreveport.³¹ Starting out as a manufacturer of oil field equipment and supplies for drillers, during the war, the company produced ammunition products.³² Similar to the J.B. Beaird Company, the Brewster Company received the Army/Navy "E" for excellence award for exceeding the allotted amount of time and

³⁰ Municipal Auditorium: A Venue Attracting Music Legends of the Past, Present and Future," *The Times* (Shreveport), August 21, 2016.

³¹ "Brewster Co. Started as a Small Machine Shop in Oil City," *The Times* (Shreveport), February 5, 1943.

³² "Brewster Co. Started as a Small Machine Shop in Oil City," *The Times* (Shreveport), February 5, 1943.

product asked of the company by the War Department with less than 500 employees.³³ While the Brewster Company gained a contract after the competing J.B. Beaird Company, the company still achieved the same war time goal: mass produce products for the war overseas.

Image: A *Shreveport Times* advertisement for the Brewster Company during World War II.

Panel #9: A Soldiers Clothes: The Lee Manufacturing Company

Established in Kansas during the 1880s, Lee Manufacturing Company entered Shreveport in 1941 as the first work clothing manufacturer assembling uniforms and other textiles for the military.³⁴ Like other companies in the area, Lee Manufacturing provided work for locals in need of jobs, and employed approximately 100 people.³⁵ Though not the company's first defense contracts, Lee Manufacturing received two army contracts in 1941 which amounted to \$82,000 for the production of twill jackets and wool pants.³⁶ While Lee Manufacturing did not receive an award like the J.B. Beaird or Brewster company, the company maintained every quota and completed each on time while also keeping Shreveport as a leader in Louisiana for wartime production.

Image: A *Shreveport Times* newspaper clipping about the Lee Manufacturing Company.

³³ Army-Navy "E" Award Never Lightly Bestowed," *The Times* (Shreveport), February 5, 1943.

³⁴ "Shreveport Gains on Many Fronts Recorded by C. of C. Annual Report," *The Times* (Shreveport), January 8, 1941.

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ "Lee Concern Gets \$82,000 Clothing Order from Army," *The Times* (Shreveport, LA), July 1, 1941.

Panel #10: Gardening for Victory

As the military declared agricultural produce essential to the war effort, people in Shreveport and other cities created vegetable gardens known as Victory Gardens, a practice from World War I. Peas, tomatoes, and squash served not only as a food source, but also to raise morale on the home front and garner support for the War. *The Shreveport Times* offered articles written specifically for the wartime gardeners. One article even exclaims, “Shreveport gardeners, experienced and amateur, have rolled up their sleeves, seized a hoe a rake, and gone to war!”³⁷ Victory gardens popped up all over the city in private home gardens and public spaces. Companies like Sears encouraged young people such as girls in local 4-H Clubs to garden with prizes as an incentive.³⁸ Victory gardening provided people on the home front with a way to contribute to war efforts, and represented an important morale boost on the home front.

Image: A photograph of women tending a large Victory Garden.

Panel #11: Shreveport Churches Praise On

A war raging overseas and men missing from the pews barely slowed down religion in Shreveport. Church services continued with many services addressing the international conflict and supporting mobilization efforts. Summer Grove Baptist Church held services honoring the men and women in service while other churches promoted attending

³⁷ Many Vacant Lots Listed with Committee are Put to Use,” *The Times* (Shreveport, LA), March 14, 1943.

³⁸ “4-H Club Girls of 5 Parishes in Food Event,” *The Times* (Shreveport, LA), February 20, 1944.

church services for moral and soldier supporting purposes.³⁹ Many churches took it upon themselves to assist factory working mothers and fathers with childcare while also raising money for war efforts.⁴⁰ Religion played an important role in maintaining morale during the war.

Image: A newspaper clipping from the *Shreveport Times* showing children in a church program.

Panel #12: Defending Shreveport: Civilian Defense Efforts

In May 1941, the Office of Civil Defense was created to prepare cities and towns ensure citizens were ready for a possible military invasion. Maps like the one above were color coded with important information that assigned leaders for each section, meet-up areas, and potential hot zones for damage. In Shreveport, Civil Defense took form like many other cities with the creation of Civil Defense boards, air raid drills, and Civil Defense training courses, and community planning for the possibility of attacks from Axis forces.⁴¹

Image: A photograph of a Civil Defense map which plots the Highland neighborhood in Shreveport.

Panel #14: The Red Cross Goes to Work: Shreveport Chapter

The national Red Cross of America provided aid to people overseas and on the home front. Almost every city in America opened a local chapter of the Red Cross and used the

³⁹ "Summer Grove Service," *The Times* (Shreveport, LA), October 3, 1943.

⁴⁰ "Church's War Aid Discussed," *The Times* (Shreveport, LA), July 15, 1942.

⁴¹ "Large Quarters Provided in Standard Oil Building," *The Times* (Shreveport, LA), March 14, 1942.

organization to provide for their communities and for soldiers abroad. In Shreveport, the local Red Cross chapter assembled care and food packages for soldiers held in POW camps in Europe.⁴² The Shreveport chapter held a massive War Bond Drive which included a parade, bands, and war fund leaflets dropping from the sky.⁴³ Shreveport met the quota for the massive War Fund. By running several programs in the community, the local chapter trained and awarded 545 women in home nursing certificates in 1942 which provided work for the women.⁴⁴ The Red Cross boosted morale while also providing for the community and the soldiers who waited to come home.

Image: A photograph of a Red Cross achievement certificate.

Panel #15: Save Your Tires! Save Your Meat! Shreveport Rations!

In the wartime mobilization effort, the U.S. government issued food and material rationing orders to divert essential products for support of the military and defense. In Shreveport, local rationing boards carried out the rationing demands of the government and submitted articles to the *Shreveport Times* to inform citizens of rationing duties. One article held a question and answer forum to ease any concerns about meat rationing by addressing food shortages overseas and by presenting the notion of rationing to help win the war while also maintaining the home front.⁴⁵ Many articles covered the topic of tire rationing in the Shreveport

⁴² “Red Cross Activities,” *The Times* (Shreveport), July 26, 1942.

⁴³ “All Services to March for the War Fund,” *The Times* (Shreveport), February 21, 1943.

⁴⁴ “Red Cross Home Nursing Offers Interesting Work,” *The Times* (Shreveport), January 5, 1943.

⁴⁵ “Wilson’s Weekly Bulletin: George Rector Discusses Meat Rationing,” *The Times* (Shreveport), March 25, 1943.

area with charts explaining which tires citizens are allowed to get based on how many miles each vehicle is allowed.⁴⁶ Rationing allowed more goods for the troops to keep the war going while also maintaining the communities on the home front.

Image: A *Shreveport Times* newspaper clipping of a meat rationing advertisement.

Panel #16: Searching for Equality: Shreveport Race Relations

The extraordinary social disruptions that came with mobilization had an impact on race relations in Shreveport, during this period of racial segregation. In nearby cities such as Alexandria, race relations boiled over into events like the Lee Street Riot, where Army officers wrongly arrested an African American soldier, and a riot ensued because of angry, racist citizens.⁴⁷ While an event such as this did not happen in Shreveport, evidence of inflammatory, racist language presented itself throughout newspaper articles of the time. Upholding the segregated labor market of the times, Mayor Sam Caldwell of Shreveport affirmed that all skilled labor on a public health construction site must only be white and “negro” skilled laborers need not apply, despite the Federal Works Administration’s Depression-era order for African American workers to comprise twelve percent of skilled labor.⁴⁸ This statement came from the mayor, a man who supposedly stood for all Shreveport citizens, but upheld the existing segregation of the labor market in the American South where black workers did not have access

⁴⁶ “Car Owners Can Now Get Rubber to Keep Their Cars Running for Essential Transportation,” *The Times* (Shreveport, LA), November 16, 1942.

⁴⁷ William M. Simpson, “A Tale Untold? The Alexandria, Louisiana, Lee Street Riot: January 10, 1942,” *Louisiana History: The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Society* 35, no. 2 (April 1992): 133–149.

⁴⁸ “Negro Skill Not Needed on Project,” *The Times* (Shreveport, LA), April 3, 1942.

to skilled training or jobs. Just across the river at Barksdale Field, African American men found better opportunities as the base held positions for the soldiers at the Chemical Warfare Training Center. Despite the existence of legal racial segregation, African American military personnel such as those at Barksdale fought for the Allied cause of democracy and self-determination, and returned home after the war to advocate for an eventual end to segregation.

Image: The visual associated with this panel is a photograph of African American soldiers at Barksdale Field.

Panel #17: Not Your Average TV Shows: Entertainment During the War

Though the war drained some life from the Shreveport community, Shreveportians found many ways to entertain the city. The Shreveport Municipal Auditorium became a hub for exciting activity, with War Bond Shows featuring famous actors such as Frances Dee and Edward Arnold.⁴⁹ A Greek-American coalition called Ahepa War Fund quadrupled the goal of \$120,000 with fun events encouraging citizens to contribute to war efforts.⁵⁰ War Bond Drives and Shows not only raised money, but also became a fun activity for the community. The local YMCA even included local factories such as the J.B. Beaird Company and the Louisiana Ordnance Plant in on the fun, creating basketball teams for each company and pitting the teams against each other which formed a fun way to release war time stress.⁵¹ Though

⁴⁹ “Big Sale Listed for War Bond Events Here Today,” *The Times* (Shreveport, LA), September 2, 1942.

⁵⁰ “Greek-American War Bond Drive in Shreveport is Continuing with Astounding Success,” *The Times* (Shreveport, LA), March 1, 1943.

⁵¹ “Y.M.C.A. Basketball,” *The Times* (Shreveport, LA), February 23, 1944.

the war took a toll overseas and at home, the Shreveport community worked hard to maintain a level of normalcy at home.

Image: A newspaper clipping of a war bond show.

Panel #18: War Can't Stop Social Life

Social life seemed to thrive in Shreveport during the war with all the many social and war clubs available to the community. The USO held two chapters in Shreveport, segregated by race. Both clubs offered fun events such as bingo nights which won members prizes such as a long-distance phone calls and women on staff ready to fix buttons and hand the men razors to clean up with.⁵² Though conservative and located amidst many dry parishes in North Louisiana, Shreveport and Bossier City still allowed alcohol sales, often advertising the sale of alcohol in newspapers. This alcohol consumption meant that many events such as dances and shows thrived in the area.

Image: A photograph of a ball at Barksdale Field.

Panel #19: Working Women of Shreveport

⁵² “Where Else Can a Soldier, Far From Home, Find All This?,” *The Times* (Shreveport, LA), May 17, 1942.

While Shreveport men packed up and headed across the ocean, women picked up where the men left off and kept the community running. Whether they needed to deliver milk, assemble munitions, or garden to sustain the community, women found a way to keep the home front stable. Women trained in programs such as ordnance inspection and civil defense ensuring the home front contributed to war. Many women joined local Women's Army Corps (WAC) ranks training as switchboard operators and mechanics among other war time jobs. One Shreveport native, Helen Ingersoll, even achieved the rank of second lieutenant! The home front succeeded because women stepped up to complete the vacant positions.

Image: A photograph of women delivering milk.

Panel #20: Extra! Extra! The War Reaches Shreveport

While World War II raged in Europe and the Pacific, the home front saw action unique to every city in America. Shreveport and Bossier experienced the war in full force. From participation in the Louisiana Maneuvers to heavy metals manufacturing at the J.B. Beaird Company to victory gardening at Barksdale Field, Shreveport and Bossier found ways to support the troops overseas.

Image: A newspaper clipping from the *Shreveport Times* detailing the arrival of the Louisiana Maneuvers.

Panel #21: Shreveport Steams Ahead

When the war ended, surviving soldiers returned home to resume their post-war civilian lives. Shreveport needed to move forward. In the years following the war the city saw a large expansion both in population growth and community infrastructure. The city economy boomed because of agriculture, forestry, oil, and gas and in the first 10 years after the war the population of Shreveport doubled.⁵³ More hospitals appeared, the Shreveport downtown skyline began to form, and a Shreveport-Bossier bridge began construction while the city expanded outwards towards the agricultural lands surrounding Shreveport.⁵⁴ The famous "Louisiana Hayride" radio show gained notoriety in 1950 just a few short years after the war, welcoming legendary artists such as Johnny Horton, Elvis Presley, and Hank Williams. While the Shreveport today is much different than the Shreveport of the 1940's, the memory of war, expansion, and the strength of a community still remains.

Image: A newspaper clipping of an article discussing the years after World War II.

⁵³ "Growth Soars After World War II," *The Times* (Shreveport, LA), September 17, 1985.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

Results/Findings:

The outcomes of this project are a physical exhibit at the Spring Street Museum and an online exhibition, which takes viewers on a journey through World War II-era Shreveport. These two exhibitions inform and interpret the historical significance of Shreveport during World War II. Additionally, the projects offer teachers a resource with activities to educate students both local and abroad about the importance of every history whether the information be society altering or a fun lesson. Upon completion of this project, the community and museum gain a better understanding of Shreveport during World War II, and how Shreveport stood out as unique among other cities in America. Prior to installation of the physical exhibit, the Spring Street Museum contained no information on Shreveport during World War II, because the museums mission statement ends in 1935. Now patrons enter the museum to see Shreveport beyond the 1930's. The physical exhibit is available and open to all patrons of the museum, but the website goes live once the thesis committee approves the information.

Summary/Conclusion:

While measuring lasting impact is difficult, hopefully this project encourages locals and tourists alike to discover the past that surrounds them and inspires students to pursue the untold history because even the smallest of histories deserves to be told. The community of Shreveport now holds a key into the city's history with World War II which local historical institutions previously lacked. A broadened range of scholarship now exists for the local community, the wider public, and the field of history.

Previously to this study and the exhibitions, Shreveport's World War II history was largely overlooked and not interpreted for the public. The research presented here is the first

scholarly historical interpretation of this time period, and clearly shows how smaller cities and communities across the U.S. like Shreveport played an essential, but often overlooked, role in the mobilization effort on the home front. Like many communities, Shreveport citizens supported war efforts by conducting war bond drives, rationing, planting Victory Gardens, training to maintain the home front; worked at industrial factories such as the J.B. Beaird Company and Lee Manufacturing company, and served in the military.

Audience, Dissemination, and Relevance

The project takes form in two parts, an online exhibition on ArcGIS and a physical exhibition in the Spring Street Museum thus opening two public forums for information to be displayed. Advertising for these exhibitions comes in the form of social media posts by the museum and the LSUS foundation. Additionally, advertisements on personal social media accounts allow information on the projects to spread further. To further expand research and product, the website offers an option for crowdsourcing which allows the public to directly contribute to the history of Shreveport during World War II. Crowdsourcing contributions include oral history projects or scans of documents/photographs/artefacts.

This project is connected to the community through Greenwood Cemetery in Shreveport, which is the resting place of many World War II veterans from the local area whose stories are not currently available to the public. Not only will these exhibitions allow the general public to educate themselves on an important era of Shreveport history, but they will also serve as a remembrance of the lives lost overseas. Additionally, they will show unification among the community during world conflict and the ability of a community to support a nation at war.

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John Paschal Toler WWII Collection, 1903-1994, Collection 657.

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Dr. Charles L. Black Oral History, Collection OH, Item OH123, 30 March 1993.

Eric Brock Oral History Interview, Collection OH, Item OH124, August 1998.

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Appendices

Creating the Physical Exhibit:

Presented below is a collection of photographs showing the setup of the physical exhibit including the creation of text panels, object labels, and some of the final day of assembling the exhibit. Several photos include exhibit creator, Katelyn Woodel.

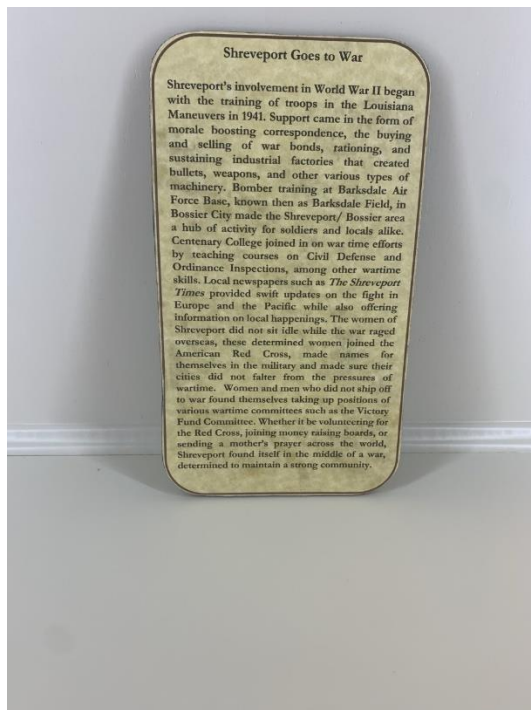


The picture to the left shows Woodel cutting a strong foam board for panel backing and sanding down the edges for a clean finish. Next to her is a can of spray adhesive used to firmly glue the panels to the foam board.

The picture to the right Woodel adjusting a World War II Red Cross Uniform with Bandage Bag and Cap included on a half mannequin body. Altering the size of the mannequin and fitting the dress to a good position allows patrons to maximize the amount of uniform seen.



The picture to the right shows a photograph from PastPerfect, the organizational application used by the Spring Street Museum, of the Red Cross Uniform when the uniform first arrived at the museum in the 1970's.

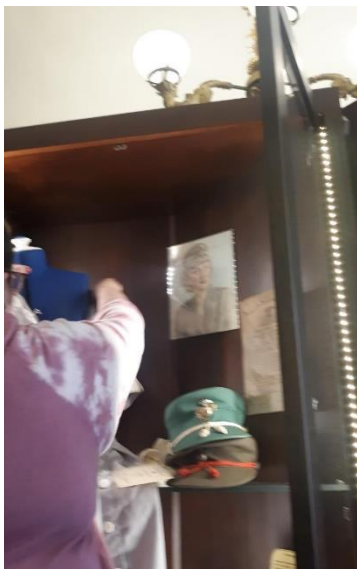


The picture to the left shows the finished “main panel” for the exhibit. Attached to the back to the back of the panel is a foam square to make the panel look as though it is reaching out from the wall and a piece of Velcro to attach the panel to the wall.

The picture to the right shows a handwritten rough draft attempting to determine the placement for each object.



The photo above shows Woodel preparing to set up the final physical exhibit.



The photo to the right shows Woodel assembling the top level of the exhibit. Here she is adjusting the mannequin body to place the Red Cross Uniform in the top left corner of the exhibit space. The top level includes two hats owned by Helen Ingersoll, a Second

Lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserves, with her portrait and rank orders above the hats.

Below are four photographs displaying the final product of the Shreveport Goes to War physical exhibit.

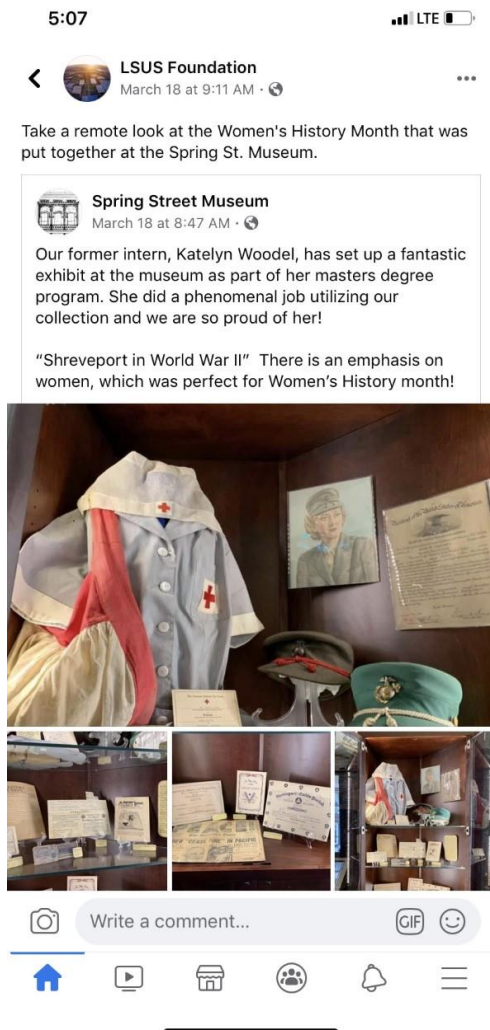


Social Media Advertisement:

The following images show social media posts from the Spring Street Museum, the LSUS Foundation and from Katelyn Woodel's private Facebook page. In the future Woodel will reach out to the *Shreveport Times* to post an add for patrons to visit the Spring Street Museum to tour the exhibit.



The image to the left shows the Facebook post by the Spring Street Museum revealing the new exhibit.



The image to the left shows a Facebook post made by the LSUS Foundation. The LSUS Foundation took over control of the museum in 2019 and Woodel received an undergraduate degree from LSUS.

6:06

LTE



Katy's Post



Katy Nicole Woodel is with **Jessica Withers-Gaar** and **3 others** at **Spring Street Museum**.

Posted by Katy Nicole Woodel

March 14 at 2:27 PM · Shreveport, LA · 🧑🏻‍🧑🏻‍🧑🏻

If y'all Shreveport folks decide to brave the outdoors today, my thesis exhibit just went up at the Spring Street Museum! My topic is Shreveport During World War II, though the exhibit took more of a women during WWII swing. Go ladies! Once I am completely finished with my website, I'll share the link for everybody to check out! It's been a wild semester and doesn't seem to be slowing down, but this is something I'm incredibly proud of!

Here's some photos for the people not anywhere near Shreveport!

(Special thanks to Marty and Maria for supporting me through this and allowing my exhibit to go up in their museum. And to Jessica Withers-Gaar, the best sister ever who helped me finish things up!)



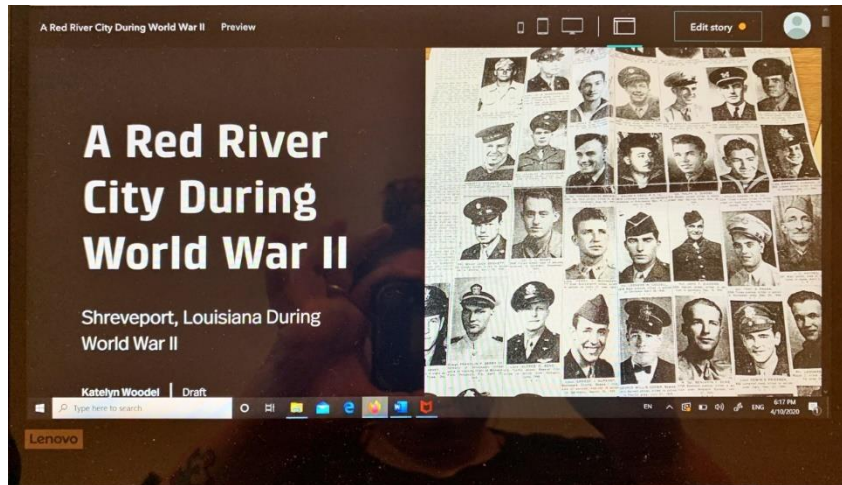
Write a comment...



The image to the right is a Facebook post by Katelyn Woodel on her own Facebook page.

ArcGIS StoryMap Website:

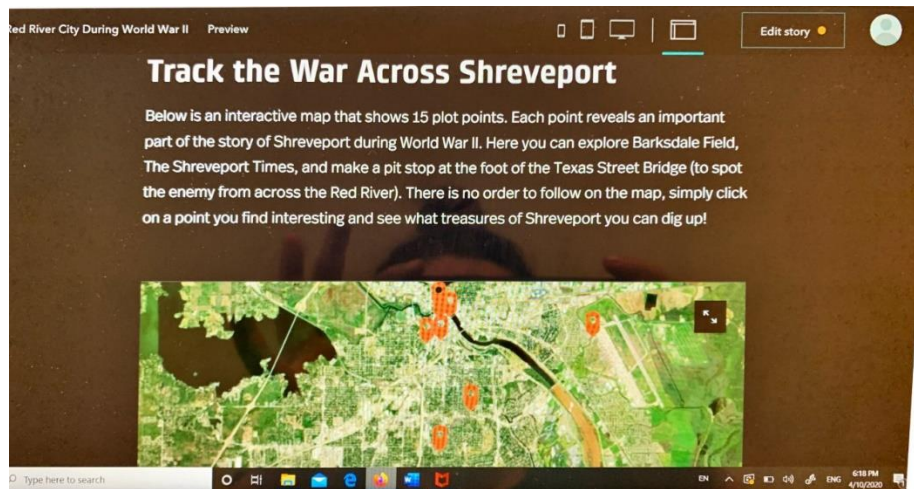
The following images show portions of the ArcGIS online exhibitions, a website Woodel built in addition to a physical exhibition.



The image to the left shows the opening page of the website.

The image to the right shows the first photo and panel duo from the site.

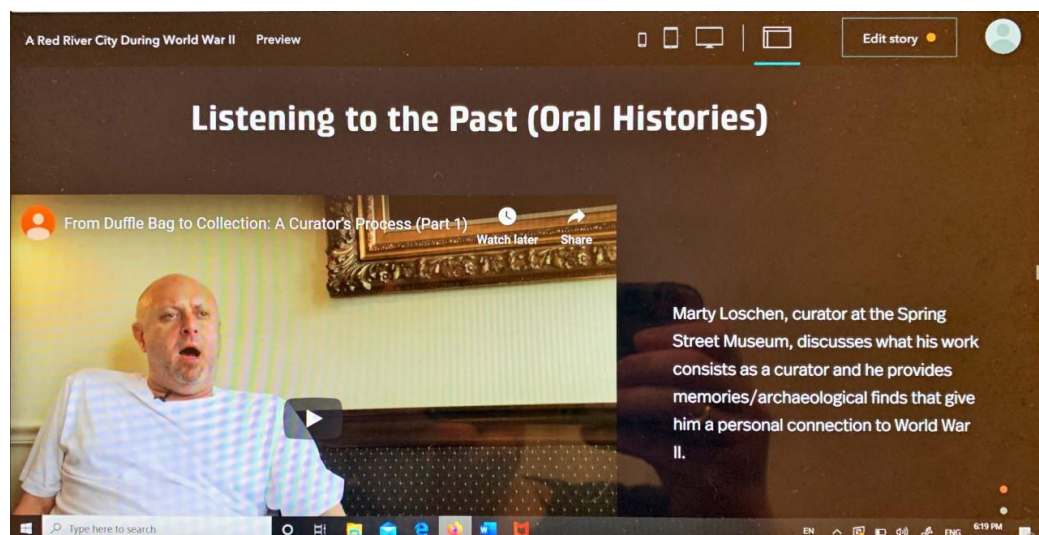




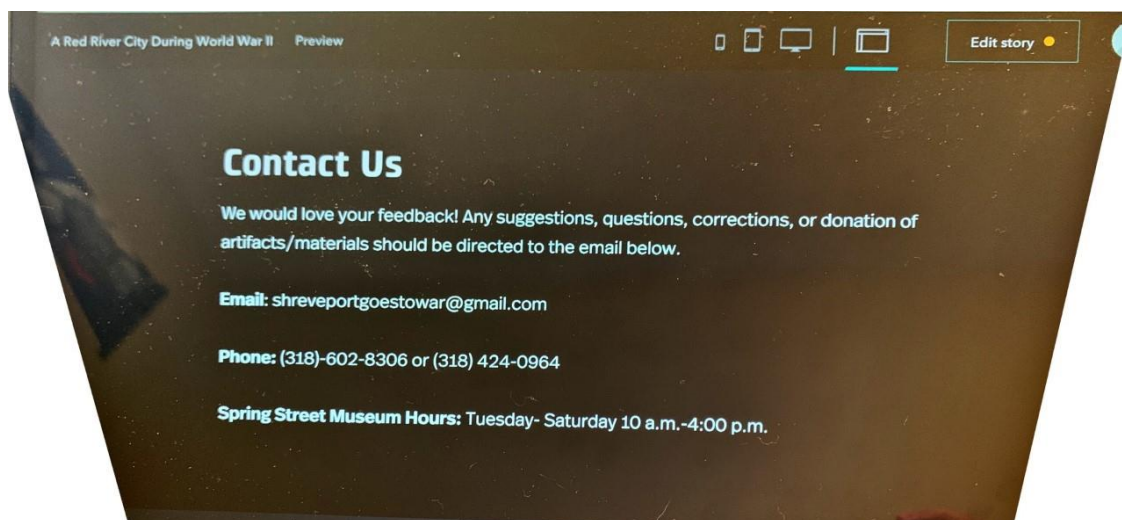
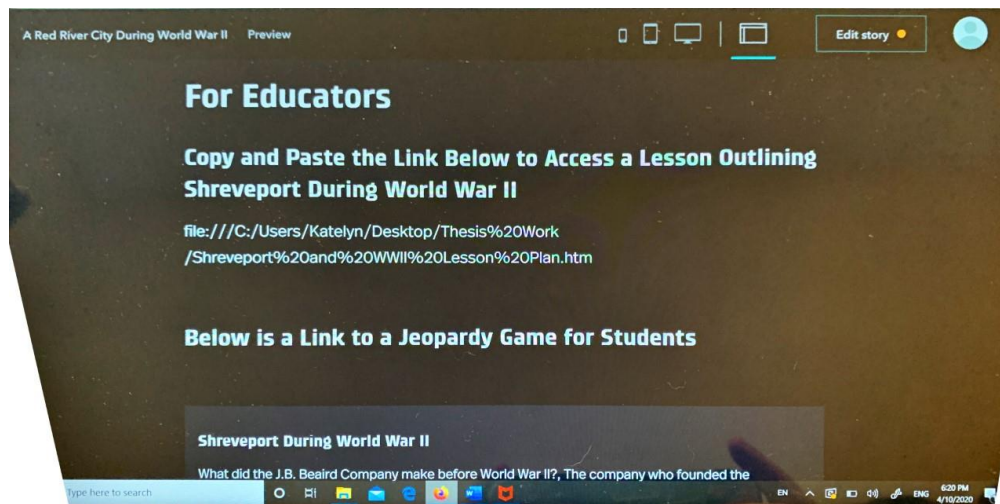
during World War II.

The image to the left shows an interactive map where anyone who views the website can travel to the approximate geographic locations of functioning businesses

The image below shows the oral history section of the website. To complete this section, Woodel had to use the “sidecar” feature on ArcGis to create a constantly scrolling series of oral histories and photos.



Below are two photographs displaying the “For Educators” section which includes a lesson plan and a jeopardy game link for teachers to share with students. The second photograph shows a “Contact Us” page with information about the museum and personal information from the creator, Katelyn Woodel.



Educational Outreach:

UNIT / LESSON PLAN

2020-2021

Teacher's Name:
Grade Level & Subject Area: 6th grade American History
Unit/Lesson Dates or Time Frame: 4 weeks
Unit/Lesson Goal(s): World War II and the Homefront
Objectives: The Student will be able to : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• list ways in which World War II mobilized American cities• learn how smaller cities used local surroundings to contribute to war efforts• analyze Shreveport soldier's involvement overseas, where were these troops• learn about government involvement in Shreveport, what rules and requests were put into place• identify important Shreveport locations on a map and discuss locations in relation to each other• examine how Louisiana and Shreveport environment and landscape impacted agricultural contributions• discover how American women contributed to the war effort• examine how race relations changed or did not change during the war• discover how WWII affected people of color at home

- analyze the amount of production in Shreveport
- examine the businesses and citizen lead organizations in Shreveport
- describe the impact of World War II on a home front city such as Shreveport
- identify the immediate aftermaths of WWII in Shreveport
- analyze the community of Shreveport and provide opinions on why the city and citizens decided to contribute to war efforts

CCSS Standards:

SOCIAL STUDIES:

STANDARD 1-HISTORICAL THINKING SKILLS

STANDARD 5-GEOGRAPHY SKILLS

STANDARD 7-ENVIRONMENT

STANDARD 8-GOVERNMENT

STANDARD 9-GLOBAL AWARENESS

STANDARD 10-CIVIC LITERACY

ELA:

INFORMATIONAL TEXT: 1-9

WRITING: 1-2, 4-5, 9

SPEAKING /LISTENING: 1, 6

LANGUAGE: 1-6

Content (Nouns):

- Victory Gardens
- religion

- Civil Defense
- War bonds
- Shreveport Municipal Auditorium
- American Red Cross
- Race relations
- civil rights
- migrant worker
- rationing
- *The Shreveport Times*
- Woman's Army Corps
- Helen Ingersoll
- USO
- J.B. Beaird Company
- Lee Manufacturing Company
- Louisiana Ordnance Plant
- Brewster Company
- Barksdale Field
- Centenary College
- Louisiana Maneuvers
- Mayor Sam Caldwell

Instructional Strategies:

- oral reading of the website panels

- class discussion
- map skills
- Essential Questions
- study guide
- group project
- interactive Jeopardy Game
- photographs and videos
- report on a company, business, or group in Shreveport

Assessment:

Formal:

- tests
- quizzes
- Shreveport business or group report
- Essential Questions

Informal:

- Study guide

Resources:

- Website
- Readings from Website Bibliography
- Readings from *The Shreveport Times*

Test Prep:

- Outlines

***Include at least one interactive game activity for students**

Jeopardy Game for All Ages:

<https://jeopardylabs.com/play/shreveport-during-world-war-ii>



Vita

Katelyn Woodel was born in Shreveport, Louisiana and raised in Marthaville, Louisiana. She graduated from Natchitoches Central High School in May 2014 and entered Louisiana State University at Shreveport in August 2014. Katelyn received a Bachelor of Art in History in May 2018. As part of her course work, Katelyn worked as an intern for two years at the Spring Street Museum in Shreveport, and she assisted in several of Louisiana State University at Shreveport Strategic Alternatives Consortium's symposiums in history. In August 2018, Katelyn began pursuing her master's degree at the University of New Orleans in the Public History program with a concentration in Military History.